

Homework Hotline. The Team worked with the local telephone company and school officials to establish the Hotline, setting up both a telephone line and an Internet chat room. The members of the Community Problem Solving Team manned the Hotline under the supervision of adult volunteers and the 8th grade members of the Team.

The response to the new Homework Hotline was extremely positive. Students who used the service became more adept at refining their questions and moved away from one-line fact requests to research-based inquiries for additional sources of information that they could access on their own. The Team is now considering continuing the program into next year.

I want to congratulate all the members of the Paintsville Middle School Community Future Problem Solving Team: Catlin Boswell, Zachary Boswell, Ashley Boswell, Katie Brown, Hayley Castle, Elizabeth Combs, John Compton, Sashi Param, Mallore Collins, Katie Gilkerson, and John Petot. They have spent countless hours working on the Homework Hotline project, and their dedication to their community and fellow students should serve as an inspiration to us all. I also want to commend the Team's Coach, Brenda Porter, and the Team's advisors: Teresa Boswell, Larry Compton, Teresa Petot, and South Central Bell. Their support and guidance has been invaluable in spurring the success of the Community Future Problem Solving Team.

Mr. Speaker, the activities of the Problem Solvers are important, and we should support their efforts. Today's problem solvers are tomorrow's problem solvers and community leaders. I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Paintsville Middle School Community Problem Solving Team on a job well done, and to wish them the best of luck as they compete in Ann Arbor, Michigan, next week.

TRIBUTE TO GARRY FREID

HON. JIM DAVIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 4, 1998

Mr. DAVIS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Garry Freid, a constituent of mine in Tampa who will celebrate his eightieth birthday on Monday, June 8th.

Mr. Freid has contributed tirelessly and selflessly to his country, state, community, and family. His patriotism and citizenship continue to shape the face of our nation and are held out as examples to all Americans. As a soldier, businessman, and father, he helped mark many milestones in the history of the United States. So now, it is with great respect and thanks that Congress and I acknowledge his personal milestone today.

As a child of immigrant parents, Mr. Freid and his family represent the earnest fabric of our country. He endured the Great Depression and World War II; his service record is a source of great pride to his family. With his wife Hannah, he prospered, raised four children, supported public education, became a part of the workforce, and helped grow the city of Tampa. Therefore, with thanks and reverence, we mark his personal triumph by saying congratulations.

HONORING MR. CHESTER J. MACKOWIECKI OF AUBURN, MA, ON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT

HON. RICHARD E. NEAL

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 4, 1998

Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, I am privileged today to have the opportunity to acknowledge and honor my constituent, Mr. Chester J. Mackowiecki, on the occasion of his retirement from the field of education. Mr. Mackowiecki, resident of Auburn, Massachusetts, has been an educator, administrator, and leader in education in the over 30 years that culminate his career in education. His dedication to improving children's lives through education is evident by his past involvement in and progression through the school system in Webster, Massachusetts.

Mr. Mackowiecki began his career in 1959 as a fifth grade teacher at the School Street School. He then moved to the Webster Intermediate School in 1961 where he served as a fifth grade teacher until he was appointed Assistant Principal. Shortly thereafter, Mr. Mackowiecki served as Principal of the Intermediate Annex and Filmer School until he was appointed to his present position of Principal of the Park Avenue Elementary School. He has served as a leader and mentor to all those students and teachers that have had the opportunity to learn and flourish under his administration at Park Avenue Elementary over an astounding 28 year period!

Mr. Mackowiecki's 39 year commitment to education and to providing quality education to the children of Webster is a most admirable achievement that should serve as an inspiration to all who enter the field of education. The loyalty and pride that is felt toward him by his colleagues and all teachers who have served under his leadership is indicative of the positive atmosphere for learning that Mr. Mackowiecki fostered within the classrooms of the Park Avenue Elementary School. Mr. Mackowiecki will be greatly missed by all those who he has touched and influenced, both young and old. I wish him many years of health, happiness, and peace during his retirement and am assured that the legacy he has left in Webster Education will not be forgotten.

CONGRATULATING KITTATINNY REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL

HON. MARGE ROUKEMA

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 4, 1998

Mrs. ROUKEMA. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate Kittatinny Regional High School on receiving the U.S. Department of Education's prestigious Blue Ribbon Schools Award.

This award recognizes that Kittatinny Regional High School is one of the finest schools in our entire nation. This proves that public education works and that our young people in Sussex County are among the best and brightest. This accomplishment is the result of hard work on the part of students, their parents, teachers and the Board of Education. Special congratulations go to Principal Susan

Kappler, Superintendent of Schools Robert Walker and English teacher Carol Fishbone, who helped Mrs. Kappler shepherd the Blue Ribbon application. As a former teacher and school board member, I am proud of everyone associated with this accomplishment.

Of the thousands of middle schools and high schools across the United States, only 166 this year were found to be outstanding enough to receive this high honor. Recipients of the Blue Ribbon Schools Award have been judged particularly effective at meeting local, state and national goals. The award is presented to schools that have shown strong leadership, a clear vision and sense of mission, high quality teaching, challenging curriculum, a safe environment for learning, solid evidence of family involvement, evidence that the school helps all students achieve high standards, and a commitment to share best practices with other schools. These schools clearly display the quality of excellence necessary to prepare our young people for the challenges of the next century.

Kittatinny Regional High School is located on 95 acres in Hampton Township and offers its 1,100 seventh-through-twelfth-grade students a modern physical plant designed for learning. It includes more than 50 classrooms, nine science labs, six computer labs, a media center, two gymnasiums, cafeteria, main office, superintendent's office, a pool and eight athletic fields. A computer network has been installed throughout the building. Each classroom has a telephone, at least one computer and a video connection. The computer labs offer facilities ranging from word processing to presentation software.

An outstanding physical plant is, of course, worthless without an excellent teaching staff and Kittatinny's teachers have been recognized as some of the best in New Jersey. Special education teacher Lynn Bishop and speech coordinator Marie Decker this year jointly received the state Department of Education's Best Practice Award. Social studies teacher Ellen Kolonoski received a grant from the National Geographic Society Education Foundation and sociology teacher Pamela Bilby was chosen to participate in the Belfer National Conference for Education held by the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum. English teacher Mary Jane Westra was the 1997 Kittatinny Teacher of the Year and received the Paul Harris Fellow Award from the Newton Rotary. Computer assisted drafting teacher Bill Meyer was the 1997 New Jersey Technology Teacher of the Year and received the 1996 Distinguished Alumni Award from the College of New Jersey. These are just a few of Kittatinny's award-winning teachers and I offer my apologies to those I've left out.

The school offers a wide variety of courses in English, mathematics, science, social studies, history, foreign languages, fine arts, technology, creative arts, health, physical education and business. Many of the courses are given credit by Sussex County Community College. A strong emphasis is placed on honors courses and advanced placement courses. A successful school-to-career program helps prepare non-college-bound students for direct entry into the workforce.

The excellence of Kittatinny's academic program has been repeatedly recognized. Last year, it was selected as one of 10 "Star Schools" in New Jersey. It has received several "Best Practices" awards in New Jersey.